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**MEANS AND METHODS FOR MONITORING PROTEASE  
INHIBITOR ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY AND GUIDING  
THERAPEUTIC DECISIONS IN THE TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS**

**Abstract of the Invention**

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This invention relates to antiviral drug susceptibility and resistance tests to be used in identifying effective drug regimens for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), particularly treatment regimens including a protease inhibitor. The invention further relates to the means and methods of monitoring the clinical progression of HIV infection and its response to antiretroviral therapy using phenotypic or genotypic susceptibility assays.

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